

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 3-6, 8, 11, 12, and 14-18 as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method for testing a parallel optical transceiver comprising the steps of:

connecting in series each of a plurality of channels of said parallel optical transceiver;

applying a predefined data pattern to a first channel of said series connected plurality of channels;

detecting an output from a last channel of said series connected plurality of channels; and

comparing said applied predefined data pattern with said output to identify functional operation of said parallel optical transceiver.

2. (original) A method for testing a parallel optical transceiver as recited in claim 1 wherein the step of connecting in series each of a plurality of channels of said parallel optical transceiver includes the steps of respectively electrically connecting a respective channel receiver to a corresponding respective channel transmitter; and respectively optically connecting each respective channel transmitter to a next respective channel receiver.

3. (currently amended) A method for testing a parallel optical transceiver as ~~recited in claim 1 wherein the step of~~ comprising the steps of:

connecting in series each of a plurality of channels of said parallel optical transceiver;

applying a predefined data pattern to a first channel of said series connected plurality of channels ~~includes~~ including the steps of generating said predefined data pattern utilizing a serial data generator and applying said predefined data pattern to a first channel receiver of said series connected plurality of channels;

detecting an output from a last channel of said series connected plurality of channels; and

comparing said applied predefined data pattern with said output to identify operation of said parallel optical transceiver.

4. (currently amended) A method for testing a parallel optical transceiver as recited in claim 4- 3 wherein the step of detecting an output from a last channel of said series connected plurality of channels includes the steps of detecting an output utilizing a serial data detector connected to a last channel transmitter of said series connected plurality of channels.

5. (currently amended) A method for testing a parallel optical transceiver as recited in claim 4- 3 wherein the step of comparing said applied predefined data pattern with said output to identify operation of said parallel optical transceiver includes the steps of comparing said applied predefined data pattern with said output and identifying a match to identify correct operation of said parallel optical transceiver.

6. (currently amended) A method for testing a parallel optical transceiver as recited in claim 4- 3 wherein the step of comparing said applied predefined data pattern with said output to identify operation of said parallel optical transceiver includes the steps of comparing said applied predefined data pattern with said output and identifying

failed operation of said parallel optical transceiver responsive to no match of said compared predefined data pattern with said output.

7. (original) A method for testing a parallel optical transceiver as recited in claim 1 includes the steps of connecting a plurality of parallel optical transceivers in series; wherein the step of connecting in series each of a plurality of channels of said parallel optical transceiver is provided for each of said series connected parallel optical transceivers; and wherein the step of detecting an output from said last channel of said series connected plurality of channels includes the step of detecting an output from said last channel of said series connected plurality of channels from a last one of said series connected parallel optical transceivers.

8. (currently amended) A method for testing a parallel optical transceiver as recited in claim 7 3 includes the steps of connecting a plurality of parallel optical transceivers in series, and wherein the step of applying a predefined data pattern to a first channel of said series connected plurality of channels includes the steps of ~~generating said predefined data pattern utilizing a serial data generator and applying said predefined data pattern to a first channel receiver of said series connected plurality of channels of a first one of said series connected parallel optical transceivers.~~

9. (original) A method for testing a parallel optical transceiver as recited in claim 8 wherein the step of comparing said applied predefined data pattern with said output to identify operation of said parallel optical transceiver includes the steps of comparing said applied predefined data pattern with said output and identifying a match to identify correct operation of each said series connected parallel optical transceivers.

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10. (original) A method for testing a parallel optical transceiver as recited in claim 8 wherein the step of comparing said applied predefined data pattern with said output to identify operation of said parallel optical transceiver includes the steps of comparing said applied predefined data pattern with said output and identifying failed operation of said series connected parallel optical transceivers responsive to no match of said compared predefined data pattern with said output.

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11. (currently amended) Apparatus for testing a parallel optical transceiver comprising:

a plurality of connectors for connecting in series each of a plurality of channels of said parallel optical transceiver;

a serial data generator for applying a predefined data pattern to a first channel of said series connected plurality of channels; and

a serial data detector for detecting an output from a last channel of said series connected plurality of channels and for comparing said applied predefined data pattern with said output to identify functional operation of said parallel optical transceiver.

12. (currently amended) Apparatus for testing a parallel optical transceiver as recited in claim 11 wherein comprising:

~~said~~ a plurality of connectors for connecting in series each of a plurality of channels of said parallel optical transceiver ~~includes~~ including an optical wrap plug;

a serial data generator for applying a predefined data pattern to a first channel of said series connected plurality of channels; and

a serial data detector for detecting an output from a last channel of said series

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connected plurality of channels and for comparing said applied predefined data pattern with said output to identify operation of said parallel optical transceiver.

13. (original) Apparatus for testing a parallel optical transceiver as recited in claim 12 wherein said optical wrap plug includes a plurality of optical connectors for respectively optically connecting each respective channel transmitter to a next respective channel receiver.

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14. (currently amended) Apparatus for testing a parallel optical transceiver as recited in claim 44- 12 wherein said plurality of connectors for connecting in series each of a plurality of channels of said parallel optical transceiver includes an electrical wrap plug.

15. (currently amended) Apparatus for testing a parallel optical transceiver as recited in claim 44- 14 wherein said electrical wrap plug includes a plurality of electrical connectors for respectively electrically connecting a respective channel receiver to a corresponding respective channel transmitter.

16. (currently amended) Apparatus for testing a parallel optical transceiver as recited in claim 44- 12 wherein said serial data generator for applying said predefined data pattern to said first channel of said series connected plurality of channels includes an optical connection to said first channel of said series connected plurality of channels.

17. (currently amended) Apparatus for testing a parallel optical transceiver as recited in claim 44- 12 wherein said serial data detector for detecting an output from a last channel of said series connected plurality of channels and for comparing said applied predefined data pattern with said output to identify operation of said parallel

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optical transceiver includes an optical connection to said last channel of said series connected plurality of channels.

18. (currently amended) A method for testing a plurality of parallel optical transceivers comprising the steps of:

connecting in series each of a plurality of channels of each of said parallel optical transceivers;

connecting in series each of said parallel optical transceivers;

applying a predefined data pattern to a first channel of a first one of said series connected plurality of parallel optical transceivers; including the steps of generating said predefined data pattern utilizing a serial data generator and applying said predefined data pattern to a first channel receiver of said series connected plurality of channels;

detecting an output from a last channel of a last one of said series connected plurality of parallel optical transceivers; and

comparing said applied predefined data pattern with said output to identify functional operation of said plurality of parallel optical transceivers.
